

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

Claims 1 through 21 (canceled).

Claim 22 (Currently Amended): A method of producing a cellulose-containing fibrous material, comprising oxidizing hydroxy groups at the C(6) of glucose units of the cellulose into aldehyde and carboxy groups with a nitroxy compound optionally in combination with a primary oxidizing agent, wherein the content of aldehyde groups is more than 50 $\mu\text{mol/g}$ fibrous material (as a dry content based on DIN EN 20638), wherein a paper or nonwoven made from the cellulose-containing fibrous material shows both an increased wet strength and an increased dry strength.

Claim 23 (Previously Presented): A method according to claim 22, wherein the content of aldehyde groups is more than 100 $\mu\text{mol/g}$ fibrous material.

Claim 24 (Previously Presented): A method according to claim 22, wherein the content of aldehyde groups is more than 150 $\mu\text{mol/g}$ fibrous material.

Claim 25 (Previously Presented): A method according to claim 22, wherein the nitroxy compound is a sterically hindered, organic non-conjugated nitroxy compound.

Claim 26 (Previously Presented): A method according to claim 22, wherein the nitroxy compound is a 2,2,6,6-tetramethylpiperidiny-1-oxyl (TEMPO) optionally substituted in position 4.

Claim 27 (Previously Presented): A method according to claim 22, wherein said primary oxidizing agent is a hypohalite, ozone, a peracid, a metal-containing oxidizing agent, or an oxidase.

Claim 28 (Previously Presented): A method according to claim 27, wherein peracid is used in the presence of a catalytic amount of halide at a pH of 5-11 for the purpose of oxidation.

Claim 29 (Previously Presented): A method according to claim 27, wherein oxidation is performed using hypohalite or ozone as a primary oxidizing agent and a 4-hydroxy-, 4-amino- or 4-amido-substituted 2,2,6,6-tetramethylpiperidiny-1-oxyl at a pH of 1-7.

Claim 30 (Previously Presented): A method according to claim 27, wherein oxidation is performed using MnO₂ as a primary oxidizing agent at a pH of 2-8.

Claim 31 (Previously Presented): A method according to claim 22, wherein oxidation is performed stoichiometrically using 4-acetamido-2,2,6,6-tetramethylpiperidiny-1-oxyl (4-acetamido TEMPO) at an acidic pH of <7.

Claim 32 (Previously Presented): A cellulose-containing fibrous material obtained by the method of claim 22.

Claim 33 (Previously Presented): A cellulose-containing fibrous material according to claim 32, wherein the content of aldehyde groups is more than 100 $\mu\text{mol/g}$ fibrous material.

Claim 34 (Previously Presented): A cellulose-containing fibrous material according to claim 32, wherein the content of aldehyde groups is more than 150 $\mu\text{mol/g}$ fibrous material.

Claim 35 (Previously Presented): A cellulose-containing fibrous material according to claim 22, wherein the surfaces of the fibrous material used for oxidation are activated.

Claim 36 (Previously Presented): A paper or nonwoven comprising said cellulose-containing fibrous material according to claim 32.

Claim 37 (Withdrawn): A paper according to claim 36, wherein said paper is a tissue paper.

Claim 38 (Withdrawn): A paper or nonwoven according to claim 36, wherein said paper or nonwoven exhibits a relative wet strength (rel. WS) of more than 10% calculated as follows:

$$\text{rel. WS} = \text{BSwet}/\text{BSdry}$$

wherein BSwet is the width-related breaking strength of the wet sample strip as measured according to DIN ISO 3781 and BSdry is the width-related breaking strength of the dry sample strip as measured according to DIN EN ISO 1924-2.

Claim 39 (Withdrawn): A paper or nonwoven product comprising at least one ply of said paper or nonwoven according to claim 36.

Claim 40 (Withdrawn): A paper product according to claim 39, wherein said paper product is a tissue product.

Claim 41 (Withdrawn): A tissue product according to claim 40, wherein said tissue product is a cleaning wipe, sanitary product, paper handkerchief, household towel, towel, cloth for facial use, napkin/serviette, bed linen, or a garment.

Claim 42 (Withdrawn): A method of producing a paper or nonwoven, comprising:
oxidizing the hydroxy groups at the C(6) of glucose units of the cellulose in a cellulose-containing fibrous material to aldehyde and carboxy groups with a nitroxy compound optionally in combination with a primary oxidizing agent, wherein the content of aldehyde groups is more than 50 $\mu\text{mol/g}$ fibrous material (as a dry content based on DIN EN 20638);

wet laying said oxidized cellulose-containing fibrous material;

pressing the wet-laid fibrous material; and

drying the pressed fibrous material.

Claim 43 (Withdrawn): A method according to claim 42, further comprising a pre-drying step based on through air drying (TAD) technology followed by a creping step and wherein said paper is a tissue paper.

Claim 44 (Withdrawn): A method according to claim 43, further comprising a wet rush transfer step prior to the drying step and wherein said paper is a tissue paper.

Claim 45 (Withdrawn): A method according to claim 42, wherein said paper or nonwoven is further processed into a paper, tissue or nonwoven product using at least one process step selected from the group consisting of cutting to size, producing a plurality of plies, producing mechanical ply adhesion, volumetric and structural embossing, applying adhesive, folding, imprinting, perforating, applying lotions, calendering, stacking, and rolling up.

Claim 46 (New): A method according to claim 22, wherein said cellulose-containing fibrous material is used to make a paper or a nonwoven.

Claim 47 (New): A method according to claim 22, wherein said paper is a tissue product.

Claim 48 (New): A method according to claim 47, wherein said tissue product is a cleaning wipe, sanitary product, paper handkerchief, household towel, towel, cloth for facial use, napkin/serviette, bed linen, or a garment